

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 CU-05 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /131 W

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R 010910Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6195

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 6492

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: LOCAL MEDIA REPORTS ROKG IS CONSIDERING AMNESTY  
IN EMERGENCY MEASURES CASES

REF: SEOUL 6436

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. LOCAL MEDIA HAS CARRIED SERIES OF  
SEOUL AND WASHINGTON DATELINED STORIES REGARDING  
POSSIBLE ROKG LENIENCY TOWARD STUDENTS AND OTHERS  
CONVICTED BY EMERGENCY MEASURES COURTS-MARTIAL. STORIES ARE  
PEGGED TO THREE DIFFERENT SOURCES BOTH HERE AND IN  
WASHINGTON. FOREIGN MINISTER KIM DONG JO, HOWEVER,  
HAS DECLINED TO COMMENT ON STORY THAT RELEASE OF  
EMERGENCY MEASURES PRISONERS IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.  
END SUMMARY.

2. UPI STORY DATED SEPTEMBER 27 QUOTES "DIPLOMATIC  
SOURCES" IN SEOUL THAT ROKG IS CONSIDERING  
RELEASE OF STUDENTS AND CIVIC LEADERS IMPRISONED  
FOR ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES BEFORE PRESIDENT FORD  
VISITS SEOUL ON NOVEMBER 22 AND 23.

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3. ANOTHER STORY CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS IS TAKEN

FROM NEW YORK TIMES REPORT ATTRIBUTED TO RANKING  
STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL IN WHICH HE OBSERVED THAT  
PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO KOREA MIGHT WELL BRING  
ABOUT FURTHER EASING OF ROKG'S EMERGENCY MEASURES.  
OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY DENIED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON  
MATTER WERE HELD BETWEEN U.S. AND ROKG OR THAT THE  
"EASING" HAD BEEN PRE-CONDITION TO PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

4. PRESS HERE ALSO COVERED IN SOME DEPTH RULING DRP'S  
PAK CHUN-KYU'S ALLEGED COMMENTS INDICATING THAT HE  
UNDERSTOOD GOVERNMENT WAS WORKING ON PLAN TO GRANT  
AMNESTY TO IMPRISONED STUDENTS ON TRIAL OR ALREADY  
SENTENCED BY EMERGENCY MEASURES COURTS-MARTIAL.  
PAK AND TWO YUCHONGHOE ASSEMBLYMEN MET WITH 11 STUDENTS  
REPRESENTING SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY'S VARIOUS COLLEGES  
AT DOWNTOWN SEOUL RESTAURANT FOLLOWING STUDENTS ANTI-  
GOVERNMENT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26 (REFTEL). SOME KOREAN  
OBSERVERS FELT PAK'S REMARKS WERE MADE TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS  
NOT TO TAKE ANY RADICAL ACTIONS WHICH COULD HAMPER  
GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO EFFECT RELEASE OF STUDENTS.

5. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL ROKG CONFIRMATION  
OF ABOVE STORIES AND WE WOULD NOTE THAT KIM DONG JO IN  
NEW YORK DECLINED COMMENT ON SUBJECT. NEITHER HAS THE  
MATTER BEEN DISCUSSED WITH EMBASSY IN PAST WEEKS.

6. WE DO UNDERSTAND FROM PRESS SOURCES HERE THAT  
SEOUL DATELINED STORY QUOTING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES (PARA 2)  
CAME FROM REPUBLIC OF CHINA EMBASSY HERE AFTER TAIWANESE  
SENIOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER KIM.  
PRESS SOURCES ALSO NOTE THAT IT SIGNIFICANT GOVERNMENT IS  
ALLOWING STORIES TO APPEAR. IN CASE OF UPI SEOUL  
DATELINE STORY, LOCAL WIRE SERVICE AGENCY BROUGHT REPORT TO  
ATTENTION OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION WHICH, TO AGENCY'S MILD  
SURPRISE, ALLOWED STORY TO BE RUN.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MARTIAL LAW, PRESS COMMENTS, STUDENT GROUPS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRISONERS RELEASE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** LOCAL MEDIA REPORTS ROKG IS CONSIDERING AMNESTY IN EMERGENCY MEASURES CASES  
**TAGS:** PINT, KS, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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